

**BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

In the Matter of the Suspension  
of the Educator Certificate of  
Mike D. Huff  
Certificate # 213643

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**CONSENT ORDER OF  
PUBLIC REPRIMAND**

**SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on December 9, 2003. On April 2, 2003, the State Department of Education (Department) sent a notice of hearing regarding the possible suspension or revocation of his certificate to Mr. Huff by certified mail, return receipt requested delivery restricted to addressee. Mr. Huff received the notice as evidenced by a signed postal receipt bearing his name. Mr. Huff initially requested a hearing but agreed with the Department to resolve the case without a hearing upon the following terms: (1) a public reprimand will be issued by the State Board, (2) he agrees that this public reprimand will be reported to all school districts in South Carolina with the grounds listed as "unprofessional conduct," and (3) this order will be maintained as a public record in the Office of General Counsel of the Department. After considering the evidence presented by the Department, the State Board voted to give a public reprimand for Mr. Huff's conduct as agreed to by the parties.

Mr. Huff holds a valid South Carolina certificate, and has over twenty-three years of teaching experience, and has had no prior reported disciplinary experiences. He was under contract with the Berkeley County School District (District) for the 2002-2003 school year as a math teacher at Sedgefield Middle School. On February 6, 2003, he was suspended following an investigation into allegations that he grabbed a student by the arm and pushed him against the wall in an inappropriate and unprofessional manner. On March 14, 2003, he entered into a settlement agreement with the District and agreed to resign effective March 14, 2003. The District provided the Department with numerous statements from staff members and students who witnessed Mr. Huff's misconduct.

**Accepted:**

Initial Here

Date:

Mike D.  
Huff  
#213643

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

"The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-150 (1990), S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-160 (1990); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. The Board finds that the preponderance of the evidence presented supports its conclusion that just cause does not exist to suspend or revoke Mr. Huff's certificate; however, cause does exist for a Public Reprimand of Mr. Huff's conduct. Accordingly, the Board issues this Consent Order of Public Reprimand as set forth above.

South Carolina State Board of Education

/S/ Greg Killian

Greg Killian

Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

December 9, 2003

**I, Mike D. Huff, SC Teaching Certificate # 213643, do hereby agree to this Order of Public Reprimand, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented as signed to the State Board of Education on Tuesday, December 9, 2003**

12/8/03  
Date

Mike Huff  
Signature